



New York Region Office

# *Press Release*

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## **Michael Pappas Appointed SBA's Region II Regional Administrator**

**WASHINGTON-** SBA Administrator Steve Preston has announced the appointment of Michael Pappas as the new Regional Administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration's Region II which includes New York State, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. As Regional Administrator, Pappas will manage the delivery of the agency's financial assistance, management counseling, business development and minority enterprise development activities throughout Region II. Pappas is preceded by William Manger who has recently been appointed Associate Administrator for the SBA's Office of Field Operations in Washington, DC.

"Michael Pappas will be a tremendous asset to SBA's Region II Office and the small businesses in New York State, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands," said SBA Administrator Steve Preston. "Having previously served as Region II Administrator, he has a strong and experienced understanding of the issues that are critical to the small business communities in these areas, and a broad familiarity in delivering to these small businesses the help they need to get started and grow."

Before joining the SBA, Pappas was the Director of Development for Pillar of Fire International, an educational and charitable association. From 1997-1999, Pappas was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, serving as a member of the Small Business, National Security and Government Reform committees, and as Assistant Majority Whip.

Previously, Pappas was a member of the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders, for nearly 13 years and served for 2 years as director of the board. His private sector experience began while working with his late father at Pappas Insurance Agency, a family-owned business.

"I look forward to returning to Region II and working to increase the agency's impact on the small business community in this area," said Region II Administrator Michael Pappas. "I am excited for the opportunity, once again, to have a role in providing a stronger working relationship between government and small business in Region II," Pappas said.

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